

63-41350

Op-922HID3  
Ser 007607P92

Rear Admiral V. L. Lowrance  
Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Admiral Lowrance:

With reference to your letter of 17 May, I share your conviction that procurement of facts about various Soviet guided missile systems is essential for the development of effective electronic counter-measures. Clandestine efforts to obtain such facts are being pressed vigorously on several fronts by the Central Intelligence Agency.

In my opinion technical collection methods such as the Central Intelligence Agency's ELINT operation in [ ] have a very low probability of success. They are nevertheless being continued and may be used elsewhere as operational conditions permit.

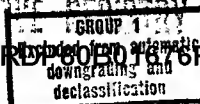
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NAVY review(s) completed.

SECRET



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I note that you intend to coordinate your own operational proposals with the Central Intelligence Agency. Insofar as your own collection efforts need my assistance or that of the Central Intelligence Agency, be assured of our cooperation.

Sincerely,

*for* (Signed) John A. McCone  
John A. McCone  
Director

Signature Recommended:

Routed through and initialled by:

DD/I - RSC

DAD/OEL - CN

DD/R - HS

/s/ Richard Helms 24 May 1963

25X1 DDP/FI/ [ ] (24 May 1963)

25X1 /s/ [ ]

Retyped O/ExDir to show correct rank, title and give reference:rcm

Orig & 1 - addressee

1 - DCI

1 - ER ✓

1 - DD/P

1 - C/SAS

1 - C/SR

1 - C/FE

1 - C/FI/ [ ]

1 - C/FI/ [ ]

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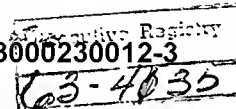
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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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Approved For Release 2003/10/07 : CIA-RDP80B01676R003000230012-3

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-922HLD3/mlk  
Ser 007607P92

17 MAY 1963

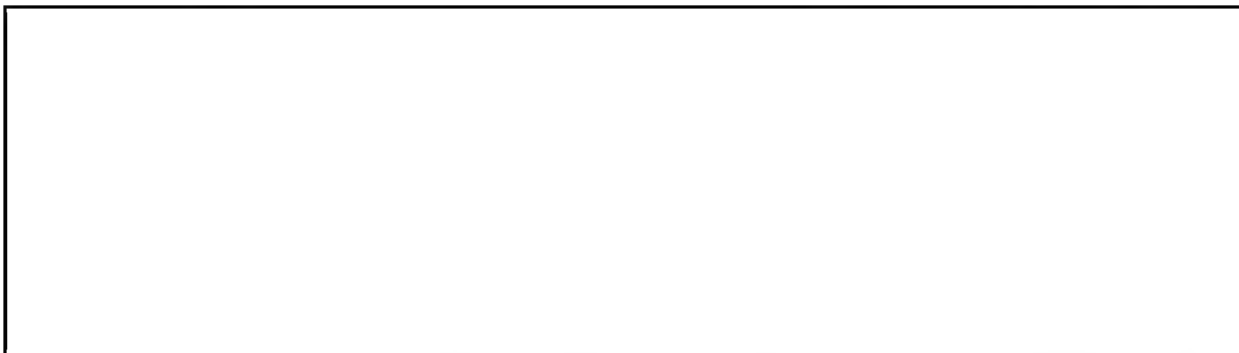
**SECRET**  
**NOFORN**

Dear Mr. McCone,

Our firm information on the details of the missile guidance techniques employed by the Soviets in their air-to-surface missile systems, the coastal defense cruise missile system, and the shipboard surface-to-surface cruise missile systems is meager. Despite the efforts of the intelligence community to increase our holdings, the fact remains that our knowledge of the terminal guidance systems is far more estimative than factual. My concern in this matter has been intensified by the recent deployment of some of these missile systems to minor world powers--Cuba, Indonesia and the U.A.R.

In order to defend themselves against these missile systems, Naval operating forces are for the most part dependent upon destroying the launching platform or the missile itself. Since these systems are obviously designed for use against moving targets, we feel that they must incorporate some form of command guidance for the missile. The acquisition of firm data on these guidance systems, and the development of active electronic counter-measures systems based on these data, would substantially enhance our operating forces capabilities to defeat these missile systems.

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The proliferation of these systems has multiplied the magnitude of the threat. I do not believe that the priority presently assigned to the collection of this guidance data adequately reflects the importance of our need for it. In the very near future, therefore, I will formally propose that the existing requirements on this subject be assigned a more appropriate degree of urgency.

In addition, I have directed that a number of studies be undertaken within ONI to determine if there are any other Navy collection resources which can be tasked to acquire information on these guidance systems.

**SECRET**  
**NOFORN**

**SECRET**  
**NOFORN**

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Some of these proposals may, if determined feasible, require collaboration and coordination with the Central Intelligence Agency. Should such be the case, I would be most grateful for any additional assistance which you and the Central Intelligence Agency would be able to extend to this collection effort.

Sincerely,

*V. L. Lowrance*  
V. L. LOWRANCE

**SECRET**  
**NOFORN**

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Mr. Elder for DCI info		
2			
3			
4			
5			
4			

ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Copies sent to: DDCI  
DD/I  
DD/R  
DD/P - Action--to coordinate  
reply.

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Executive Director	20 May

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	DDCI 5/20/63		
2	Executive Director	23 May	
3			
4	Please send a copy to		
5		- DONE - 23 May	
6	ER		
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Copies sent to: Mr. Elder for DCI info  
DD/I  
DD/R  
DD/P - Action--to coordinate  
reply.

Should this not go to USIB  
also - so that DIA might  
learn about it perhaps - maybe?

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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
Executive Director	20 May